



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT : **PIPER, Todd Elliott**  
SERIAL NO : 09/759,801  
FILED : January 12, 2001  
TITLE : INBRED MAIZE LINE PH54M

Grp./A.U. : 1638  
Examiner : **MEHTA, Ashwin D.**  
Conf. No. : 4880  
Docket No. : P06270US00

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**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Mail Stop Fee Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In response to the communication from the Examiner dated March 17, 2003, a Final Rejection, it is respectfully requested that this Preliminary Amendment and Request for Continued Examination (RCE) be entered and made of record. It is believed that the following amendments and remarks place the application in form for allowance, or at least, place the claims in a better form for Appeal. No new matter is presented, as such the Amendment is proper under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration.

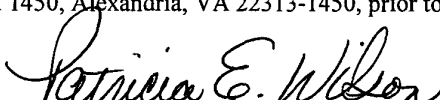
**Introductory Comments**

Claims 1-29, 33-43 and 47-53 are pending in the present application.

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**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING BY EXPRESS MAIL**

I hereby certify that this document and the documents referred to as enclosed therein are being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service in an envelope as "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" addressed to: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, prior to 5:00 p.m. on the 17th day of July, 2003.

  
Patricia E. Wilson  
Express Mail Label # EV 330622554 US